



City of Belton – Parks Board Meeting Minutes

Harris Community Center, Kinchion Room
401 N. Alexander Street
Belton, TX
Monday, December 8, 2014 – 5:30 p.m.

A meeting of the City of Belton Parks Board was held on Monday, December 8, 2014, in the Kinchion Room at the Harris Community Center. Attending the meeting were Parks Board members Daniel Bucher, Jason Wolfe, T.R. McLaughlin, Diane Ring, and Chair Josh Pearson. City Staff in attendance included City Manager, Sam Listi; Recreation and Events Director, Matt Bates; Assistant Public Works Director, Byron Sinclair; and Parks Superintendent, James Grant.

1. Call to Order.

Chair Josh Pearson called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m.

2. Consider the minutes from the August 25, 2014, Parks Board meeting.

Ms. Ring made a motion to approve the minutes, Mr. Wolfe seconded the motion. Minutes were approved unanimously, 5-0.

3. Receive an end-of-season report from Marc Shepard, Representative of Belton Youth Baseball Association.

Mr. Shepard informed the board that BYBA's numbers were slightly down in the fall; however, the association still played over 500 games and experienced a high level of competition in all divisions. Mr. Shepard also passed onto the board that BYBA board members were very happy with the progress of the newly built 5th field at Heritage Park, and are looking forward to coordinating a grand opening with the City of Belton. Finally, Mr. Shepard informed the board that the BYBA board has been restructured in such a way that will lead to a more engaged and active board.

4. Receive an end-of-season report from Tommy Parker, President of Belton Youth Softball Association.

Mr. Parker informed the board that he will be remaining the BYSA President for a third consecutive year. Mr. Parker did acknowledge that numbers were down this fall; however, he is expecting that numbers will rise in 2015. Mr. Parker also requested that the board and City staff look into allowing associations the ability to run tournaments that would allow for increased revenue opportunities. BYSA would then explore opportunities to put that money back into the softball complex with additions that would enhance the experience for all BYSA members.

5. Receive an end-of-season soccer and flag football report from Chad Doyle, Coordinator of Sports for Belton Christian Youth Center.

Mr. Doyle informed the board that BCYC soccer had experienced a 19% growth in those signed up, leading to 44 teams, and 148 games played. Mr. Doyle complimented the City on the taking over of marking lines and placement of City owned nets, which was a perk that BCYC enjoyed during the season.

Mr. Doyle explained how BCYC flag football experienced a 40% growth and has continued partnering with local businesses that have sponsored teams. Mr. Doyle told the board how the 'NFL' sponsorship of their league means they receive flags and jersey's each year for all who participate.

6. Receive an end-of-season soccer report from Lonestar Soccer Representative, Raymond Cenicerros.

Mr. Cenicerros informed the board that Lonestar soccer had a total of 33 games played at Heritage Park, with the club growing with the addition of 3 more teams. Lonestar Soccer Club has added 10 scholarships, a move that has been triggered by the club growing closer to the 'main' Lonestar Club which is based in Austin. Lonestar did want to make staff and the board aware of issues that had arisen during the year. Lonestar described to the board that a number of non-select teams were practicing on their designated field which contributed too many training hours lost.

7. Receive an end-of-season soccer report from Alan Butler, President of FC Belton Soccer Club.

Mr. Butler informed the board that FC Belton was able to provide 19 full scholarships for children in their association, along with also providing 3 scholarships for children in the Special Needs division. FC Belton experienced 27% growth from their previous spring season. Mr. Butler also told the board and staff that FC Belton is expecting to grow by another 100 players heading into spring 2015. Mr. Butler shared with the board the struggle the association had with available practice space in Belton, along with ensuring that all associations who share the field adhere to the rules stating 'No Practice'. Mr. Bates informed the board that staff were aware of the complaint and have been actively working on solutions to the problem.

8. Board and/or Staff comments.

Mr. Bates informed the board that the December 6th, 2014, 'Christmas on the Chisholm Trail' was a great success, and that the Parks and Recreation Department are excited for the upcoming 'Family, Fishin', and Fun' event scheduled for December 19th, 2014.

9. Adjourn.

Chair Pearson adjourned the meeting at 6:30pm.